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Attorneys for Plaintiff
United States of America

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

JOSE MANUEL CHAVEZ ZEPEDA, and
DENIS ZACARIAS PONCE CASTILLO

Defendants.

CASE NO. 2:22-cr-00064-JAM

**STIPULATION REGARDING EXCLUDABLE
TIME PERIODS UNDER SPEEDY TRIAL ACT;
ORDER**

DATE: February 11, 2025
TIME: 9:30 a.m.
COURT: Hon. John A. Mendez

STIPULATION

1. By previous order, this matter was set for status on February 11, 2025.
2. By this stipulation, defendants now move to continue the status conference until **April 08, 2025, at 09:00 a.m.**, and to exclude time between February 11, 2025, and April 08, 2025, under Local Code T4.
3. The parties agree and stipulate, and request that the Court find the following:
 - a) The government has represented that the discovery associated with this case includes more than 5,300 pages of investigative reports, photographs, phone toll records, and other materials, as well as video and audio recordings. All of this discovery has been either produced directly to counsel and/or made available for inspection and copying.

1 b) On August 29, 2024, attorney Shari Rusk was appointed as new counsel of record
2 for defendant Denis Zacarias Ponce Castillo.

3 c) On October 4, 2024, the Court signed an order substituting N. Allen Sawyer as
4 new counsel for defendant Jose Manuel Chavez Zepeda.

5 d) Counsel for defendants desire additional time to review the discovery, to review
6 the charges and potential responses to the charges with their clients, to conduct factual
7 investigation and legal research, and to otherwise prepare for trial.

8 e) Counsel for defendants believe that failure to grant the above-requested
9 continuance would deny them the reasonable time necessary for effective preparation, taking into
10 account the exercise of due diligence.

11 f) The government does not object to the continuance.

12 g) Based on the above-stated findings, the ends of justice served by continuing the
13 case as requested outweigh the interest of the public and the defendant in a trial within the
14 original date prescribed by the Speedy Trial Act.

15 h) For the purpose of computing time under the Speedy Trial Act, 18 U.S.C. § 3161,
16 et seq., within which trial must commence, the time period of February 11, 2025 to April 08,
17 2025, inclusive, is deemed excludable pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A), B(iv) [Local Code
18 T4] because it results from a continuance granted by the Court at defendant's request on the basis
19 of the Court's finding that the ends of justice served by taking such action outweigh the best
20 interest of the public and the defendant in a speedy trial.

21 4. Nothing in this stipulation and order shall preclude a finding that other provisions of the
22 Speedy Trial Act dictate that additional time periods are excludable from the period within which a trial
23 must commence.

24 IT IS SO STIPULATED.

1 Dated: February 4, 2025

MICHELE BECKWITH
Acting United States Attorney

2
3 /s/ DAVID W. SPENCER
4 DAVID W. SPENCER
Assistant United States Attorney

5 Dated: February 4, 2025

6 /s/ N. Allen Sawyer
7 N. Allen Sawyer
Counsel for Defendant
JOSE MANUEL CHAVEZ ZEPEDA

8 Dated: February 4, 2025

9 /s/ Shari Rusk
10 Shari Rusk
Counsel for Defendant
DENIS ZACARIAS PONCE
CASTILLO

11
12
13 **ORDER**

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15 IT IS SO ORDERED.

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17 Dated: February 04, 2025

18 /s/ John A. Mendez
19 THE HONORABLE JOHN A. MENDEZ
20 SENIOR UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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